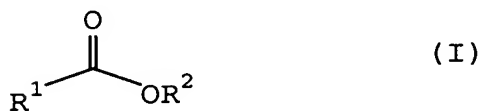


IN THE ABSTRACT

Please add the following abstract:

---The present invention provides a bitumen composition including: -(i) from 0.1 to 25 % wt of an elastomer, (ii) from 0.1 to 40 % wt of a solvent, (iii) from 30 to 99 % wt of a bitumen, (iv) from 0.1 to 30 % wt of a lithium salt of a C₁₀-C₄₀ fatty acid or hydroxy fatty acid, and optionally (v) from 0 to 70 % wt of a filler, all weights based on total bitumen composition, wherein the solvent is of general formula (I),



wherein R¹ represents a hydrogen atom or a hydrocarbyl group having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms, R² represents a hydrocarbyl group having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms, and the sum of the carbon atoms in R¹ and R² is from 5 to 7; a process of preparing said bitumen composition and the use of the composition as a cold-applicable adhesive.---